

**Claims**

1. A hair clip comprising a body portion; jaw portions attached to said body portion; and a jaw opening arrangement to allow said jaw portions to be opened single handed; said jaw portions having tines and being hingedly and resiliently connected to said body portion to urge said tines together for gripping hair, wherein said jaw portions are connected to said body portion at hinge positions defining laterally spaced axes, said jaw opening arrangement comprises handle portions extending from said jaw portions away from said tines to allow said jaw portions to be opened by urging said handle portions about said axes and said body portion includes a recess for receiving hair gripped by said tines.
2. A hair clip according to claim 1, wherein said body portion has an outer face and said jaw portions are hingedly connected to said body portion at a position away from said outer face.
3. A hair clip according to claim 1 or claim 2, including resilient portions arranged between said body portion and said jaw portions to provide said resilient connection between said body portion and said jaw portions.
4. A hair clip according to claim 3, wherein said jaw portions are mounted to said body portion via pivot pins, and said resilient portions comprise spring members engaging said body portion and said jaw portions.
5. A hair clip according to claim 3, wherein said body portion and said jaw portions are formed from a single piece of material thinned at said hinge positions to enable the relative pivoting of said jaw portions and said body portion, and said resilient portions comprise resilient members engaging said jaw portions and said body portion.
6. A hair clip according to claim 3, wherein said resilient portions comprise resilient material connecting said jaw portions and said body portion.

7. A hair clip according to any preceding claim, wherein said portion comprises a base portion to which said jaw portions are connected and at least one decorative cover portion
8. A hair clip according to claim 7, wherein at least one said decorative cover portion is removable in use to enable different cover portions to be connected to said base portion.
9. A hair clip according to any one of claims 1 to 6, wherein said body portion has thin section edge portions defining a large aperture between said axes, to allow hair of a wearer to be seen therethrough when worn.
10. A hair clip according to any preceding claim, wherein said jaw portions are arcuate in section to define a volume between said body portion and said jaw portions into which hair can be clasped in use.
11. A hair clip according to any preceding claim, wherein each said jaw portion comprises a plurality of hingedly and resiliently coupled jaw sections, each axis of the hinged couplings lying parallel to said laterally spaced axes.
12. A hair clip according to any preceding claim, wherein said body portion is substantially arcuate in section.
13. A hair clip according to any preceding claim, wherein said jaw portions and said body define an outer hair clip surface which is substantially cylindrical when said jaw portions are in the closed position.
14. A hair clip according to any preceding claim, wherein said jaw portions are arcuate in section to define a volume between said body portion and said jaw portions into which hair can be clasped in use.

15. A hair clip according to any preceding claim, wherein each said jaw portion comprises a plurality of hingedly and resiliently coupled jaw sections, each axis of the hinged couplings lying parallel to said laterally spaced axes.
16. A hair clip according to any preceding claim, wherein said body portion is substantially arcuate in section.
17. A hair clip according to any preceding claim, wherein said hair clip has a substantially cylindrical form.
18. A hair clip comprising a body portion; jaw portions attached to said body portion; and a jaw opening arrangement to allow said jaw portions to be opened single handed; said jaw portions having tines and being hingedly and resiliently connected to said body portion to urge said tines together for gripping hair, wherein said jaw portions are connected to said body portion at hinge positions defining laterally spaced axes, said body portion comprises a base portion to which said jaw portions are connected and at least one decorative cover portion, and at least one said decorative cover portion is removable in use to enable different cover portions to be connected to said base portion.
19. A hair clip comprising a body portion; jaw portions attached to said body portion; and a jaw opening arrangement to allow said jaw portions to be opened single handed; said jaw portions having tines and being hingedly and resiliently connected to said body portion to urge said tines together for gripping hair, wherein said jaw portions are connected to said body portion at hinge positions defining laterally spaced axes, and said body portion has thin section edge portions defining a large aperture between said axes, to allow hair of a wearer to be seen therethrough when worn.
20. A hair clip comprising a body portion; jaw portions attached to said body portion; and a jaw opening arrangement to allow said jaw portions to be opened single handed; wherein said jaw portions have tines and are hingedly and resiliently connected to said body portion to urge said tines together to a closed position for gripping hair, said jaw portions are connected to said body portion at hinge positions defining laterally

spaced hinge axes, and said jaw portions and said body define an outer hair clip surface which is substantially cylindrical when said jaw portions are in the closed position.

21. A hair clip according to claim 20, wherein said tines are arranged to meet substantially in a plane when said jaw portions are in the closed position.

22. A hair clip according to claim 21, wherein said tines are arranged to meet interdigitatedly.

23. A hair clip according to any one of claims 20 to 22, wherein said jaw portions are hingedly connected to said body portion at a position away from said outer face.

24. A hair clip according to any one of claims 20 to 23, wherein said jaw opening arrangement comprises handle portions extending from said jaw portions away from said tines to allow said jaw portions to be opened by urging said handle portions about said axes.

25. A hair clip according to any one of claims 20 to 23, wherein said jaw opening arrangement comprises a jaw engagement portion arranged in an area defined within said jaws portions and said body portion, said jaw engagement portion being operable in a direction of said hinge axes to engage said jaw portions to urge said jaw portions open.

26. A hair clip according to claim 25, wherein said jaw engagement portion has angled engagement surfaces for engagement with said jaw portions to urge said jaw portions open.

27. A hair clip according to claim 25 or claim 26, wherein said jaw engagement portion is carried by said body portion.

28. A hair clip according to claim 27, wherein said jaw engagement portion is slidably attached to said body portion to allow said jaw engagement portion to slide relative to said body portion to engage said jaw portions.

29. A hair clip according to any one of claims 20 to 28, including resilient portions arranged between said body portion and said jaw portions to provide said resilient connection between said body portion and said jaw portions.

30. A hair clip according to claim 29, wherein said jaw portions are mounted to said body portion via pivot pins, and said resilient portions comprise spring members engaging said body portion and said jaw portions.

31. A hair clip according to claim 29, wherein said body portion and said jaw portions are formed from a single piece of material thinned at said hinge positions to enable the relative pivoting of said jaw portions and said body portion, and said resilient portions comprise resilient members engaging said jaw portions and said body portion.

32. A hair clip according to claim 29, wherein said resilient portions comprise resilient material connecting said jaw portions and said body portion.

33. A hair clip according to any one of claims 20 to 32, wherein said body portion comprises a base portion to which said jaw portions are connected, and at least one decorative cover portion.

34. A hair clip according to claim 33, wherein at least one said decorative cover portion is removable in use to enable different cover portions to be connected to said base portion.

35. A hair clip according to any one of claims 20 to 34, wherein said body portion has thin section edge portions defining a large aperture between said axes, to allow hair of a wearer to be seen therethrough when worn.

36. A hair clip according to any one of claims 20 to 35, wherein said jaw portions are arcuate in section to define a volume between said body portion and said jaw portions into which hair is clasped in use.

37. A hair clip according to any one of claims 20 to 36, wherein each said jaw portion comprises a plurality of hinged and resiliently coupled jaw sections, each axis of the hinged couplings lying parallel to said laterally spaced axes.

38. A hair clip comprising a body portion extending along an axis; jaw portions attached to said body portion, said jaw portions having tines and being hingedly and resiliently connected to said body portion to urge said tines together to a closed position for gripping hair, and said jaw portions being connected to said body portion at hinge positions defining laterally spaced hinge axes parallel to said axis; a jaw opening arrangement to allow said jaw portions to be opened single handed; and cover portions extending from said jaw portions to cover at least a portion of the gaps between said body portion and said jaw portions and arranged to move under or over said body portion when said jaw portions are opened.

39. A hair clip according to claim 38, wherein said body portion has an outer face and said jaw portions are hingedly connected to said body portion at a position away from said outer face.

40. A hair clip according to claim 38 or claim 39, including hinge cover portions covering the hinged resilient connections at an outer side of said hair clip between said jaw portions and said body portion, said hinge cover portions comprising portions extending from said body portion and arranged to move relatively inwardly under said jaw portions when said jaw portions are opened or portions extending from said jaw portions and arranged to move relatively inwardly under said body portion when said jaw portions are opened.

41. A hair clip according to any one of claims 38 to 40 claim, wherein said jaw opening arrangement comprises handle portions extending from said jaw portions away from said tines to allow said jaws to be opened by urging said handle portions about said axes.

42. A hair clip according to any one of claims 38 to 40, wherein said jaw opening arrangement comprises a jaw engagement portion arranged in an area defined within

said jaws portions and said body portion, said jaw engagement portion being operable in a direction of said hinge axes to engage said jaw portions to urge said jaw portions open.

43. A hair clip according to claim 42, wherein said jaw engagement portion has angled engagement surfaces for engagement with said jaw portions to urge said jaw portions open.

44. A hair clip according to claim 42 or claim 43, wherein said jaw engagement portion is carried by said body portion.

45. A hair clip according to claim 44, wherein said jaw engagement portion is slidably attached to said body portion to allow said jaw engagement portion to slide relative to said body portion to engage said jaw portions.

46. A hair clip according to any one of claims 38 to 45, including resilient portions arranged between said body portion and said jaw portions to provide said resilient connection between said body portion and said jaw portions.

47. A hair clip according to claim 46, wherein said jaw portions are mounted to said body portion via pivot pins, and said resilient portions comprise spring members engaging said body portion and said jaw portions.

48. A hair clip according to claim 46, wherein said body portion and said jaw portions are formed from a single piece of material thinned at said hinge positions to enable the relative pivoting of said jaw portions and said body portion, and said resilient portions comprise resilient members engaging said jaw portions and said body portion.

49. A hair clip according to claim 46, wherein said resilient portions comprise resilient material connecting said jaw portions and said body portion.

50. A hair clip according to any one of claims 38 to 49, wherein said body portion comprises a base portion to which said jaw portions are connected, and at least one decorative cover portion.

51. A hair clip according to claim 50, wherein at least one said decorative cover portion is removable in use to enable different cover portions to be connected to said base portion.

52. A hair clip according to any one of claims 38 to 49, wherein said body portion has thin section edge portions defining a large aperture between said axes, to allow hair of a wearer to be seen therethrough when worn.

53. A hair clip according to any one of claims 38 to 52, wherein said jaw portions are arcuate in section to define a volume between said body portion and said jaw portions into which hair can be clasped in use.

54. A hair clip according to any one of claims 38 to 53, wherein each said jaw portion comprises a plurality of hingedly and resiliently coupled jaw sections, each axis of the hinged couplings lying parallel to said laterally spaced axes.

55. A hair clip comprising a body portion extending along an axis; jaw portions attached to said body portion and having tines; resilient hinge mechanisms connecting said jaw portions to said body portion to urge said tines together to a closed position for gripping hair, said resilient hinge mechanisms lying at hinge positions defining laterally spaced hinge axes parallel to said axis; a jaw opening arrangement to allow said jaw portions to be opened single handed; and hinge cover portions covering the resilient hinge mechanisms at an outer side of said hair clip between said jaw portions and said body portion, said hinge cover portions comprising portions extending from said body portion and arranged to move relatively inwardly under said jaw portions when said jaw portions are opened, or portions extending from said jaw portions and arranged to move relatively inwardly under said body portion when said jaw portions are opened.



56. A hair clip according to claim 55, wherein said body portion has an outer face and said jaw portions are hingedly connected to said body portion by said resilient hinge mechanism at a position away from said outer face.

57. A hair clip according to claim 55 or claim 56, wherein said jaw opening arrangement comprises handle portions extending from said jaw portions away from said tines to allow said jaws to be opened by urging said handle portions about said axes.

58. A hair clip according to claim 55 or claim 56, wherein said jaw opening arrangement comprises a jaw engagement portion arranged in an area defined within said jaws portions and said body portion, said jaw engagement portion being operable in a direction of said hinge axes to engage said jaw portions to urge said jaw portions open.

59. A hair clip according to claim 58, wherein said jaw engagement portion has angled engagement surfaces for engagement with said jaw portions to urge said jaw portions open.

60. A hair clip according to claim 58 or claim 59, wherein said jaw engagement portion is carried by said body portion.

61. A hair clip according to claim 60, wherein said jaw engagement portion is slidably attached to said body portion to allow said jaw engagement portion to slide relative to said body portion to engage said jaw portions.

62. A hair clip according to any one of claims 55 to 61, wherein said resilient hinge mechanism comprises pivot pins and spring members engaging said body portion and said jaw portions.

63. A hair clip according to any one of claims 55 to 62, wherein said body portion comprises a base portion to which said jaw portions are connected, and at least one decorative cover portion.

64. A hair clip according to claim 63, wherein at least one said decorative cover portion is removable in use to enable different cover portions to be connected to said base portion.

65. A hair clip according to any one of claims 55 to 64, wherein said body portion has thin section edge portions defining a large aperture between said axes, to allow hair of a wearer to be seen therethrough when worn.

66. A hair clip according to any one of claims 55 to 65, wherein said jaw portions are arcuate in section to define a volume between said body portion and said jaw portions into which hair can be clasped in use.

67. A hair clip according to any one of claims 55 to 66, wherein each said jaw portion comprises a plurality of hingedly and resiliently coupled jaw sections, each axis of the hinged couplings lying parallel to said laterally spaced axes.

68. A hair clip comprising a body portion; jaw portions attached to said body portion; and a jaw opening arrangement to allow said jaw portions to be opened single handed; wherein said jaw portions have tines and are hingedly and resiliently connected to said body portion to urge said tines together to a closed position for gripping hair, said jaw portions are connected to said body portion at hinge positions defining laterally spaced hinge axes, and said tines are arranged to meet substantially in a plane when said jaw portions are in the closed position.

69. A hair clip according to claim 68, wherein said tines are arranged to meet interdigitatedly.